

ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITIES:

- **Pals Program:** Volunteer mentors spend time in a recreational or learning activity with a child, age 3 or older, that has been referred by Brown County Child Protective Services. Volunteer mentors help the child adjust to the separation or loss of a parent, enhance self-esteem and confidence, and learn new skills.
- **Volunteer Drivers:** Assist with transporting children and families safely to and from authorized visits and appointments.
- **Parent Pals Program:** Volunteer mentors spend time (2-3 times per month) with parents referred by Brown County Child Protective Services who have identified an interest in having an informal support in their lives.
- **Volunteer Guardians:** A legal guardian is a decision maker and an advocate for those who are incompetent due to aging, a developmental disability, chronic mental illness or alcohol and drug abuse.
- **General Volunteers:** If committing to a specific program does not fit in with your interests or schedule, Brown County Health and Human Services is always seeking assistance with miscellaneous tasks and events.



CONTACT INFORMATION:

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FAMILY INTERACTION PROGRAM



Family Interaction Program is an opportunity offered through Brown County Health & Human Services. Volunteers participating in this program help fulfill a dire need of Brown County Child Protection Services. Volunteers assist the Department by providing supervision to children that are in out-of-home care during scheduled visits with their parents. The assigned volunteer is responsible for providing a safe, physically and emotionally secure environment during the visit. Visits typically occur at the Family Center or the Department. The volunteer's time commitment is flexible and determined by the hours they want to work and the available assignments. Typically, the volunteer supervises the same family on the same day and time each week.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Be dependable, flexible, patient, and assertive, as well as sensitive to the needs of the families we work with.
- Should be capable of handling emergencies if necessary.
- Volunteers must hold a valid driver's license and carry the state legal limits of liability insurance on their vehicle if transporting families.
- Experience in human services or related fields is helpful but not necessary.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Supervise visits between parents and their children including monitoring and possibly intervening when necessary.
- Abide by the Department's rules of confidentiality and be respectful of the families we work with.
- Work with the Volunteer Coordinator, Social Workers and any other collaborating agencies as a team member to best meet the family's needs.

TIME COMMITMENT:

You have the ability to decide how often you would like to volunteer and can choose to accept or decline supervision requests.

REIMBURSEMENT:

Volunteers have the option to be reimbursed mileage on a monthly basis at the annually established rate.

PROCESS:

- 1) Complete an application which includes background checks and references.
- 2) Obtain a copy of a valid driver's license and verification of auto insurance.
- 3) After all items have been returned, Volunteer Coordinators set up a time to complete necessary training .
- 4) Discussion of availability and visits that need coverage take place and the volunteer is assigned to a routine visit.